

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 05106 230754Z

21

ACTION OC-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CCO-00 OCL-00 SY-05 FBO-02 A-01

/024 W

----- 002767

R 230632Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5633

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 5106

DEPT FOR OC, SY AND FBO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ACOM, ABLD, ASEC

SUBJ: CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476

REF: A. DAMASCUS 4561 B. STATE 288124

1. POST EVIDENTLY DID NOT SUFFICIENTLY EMPHASIZE KEY IF NOT OVERRIDING SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS BEHIND PROPOSAL REF A CABLE THAT RENOVATION WORK BE ACCOMPLISHED BY A CB TEAM ASSISTED BY ENLARGED CONTINGENT MARINE SECURITY GUARDS. POST CONSIDERS CONDITIONS DAMASCUS TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES SIMILAR TO IRON CURTAIN COUNTRIES SO FAR AS HOSTILE ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES CONCERNED. THERE ARE SOME 3,000 SOVIETS RESIDENT THIS COUNTRY NOT TO MENTION LARGE NUMBERS OTHER BLOC PERSONNEL. SOVIETS WORK WITH SYRIAN SECURITY. WE KNOW FROM DATT REPORTING THAT HUNGARIANS ARE SPECIFICALLY AIDING SYRIANS IN THIS ACTIVITY.

2. ALL OF THIRD FLOOR AREA INCLUDING ROOF IS RESTRICTED SECURITY AREA BY DEFINITION AND IN FACT AT THIS POST. EVEN ENLARGED CONTINGENT MARINE SECURITY GUARDS WILL BE UNABLE TO ADEQUATELY SURVEIL UNDISCIPLINED LOCAL WORKMEN PENETRATING WHOLE EMBASSY AND SPECIFICALLY THIRD FLOOR DURING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 05106 230754Z

THIS LONG PROJECT. IT WOULD BE WISHFUL THINKING TO

ASSUME EMBASSY DAMASCUS IS NOT TARGET FOR
ELECTRONIC PENETRATION AND THAT LOCAL
WORKMEN NOT SUBJECT ABSOLUTE CONTROL SYRIAN SECURITY
IF NOT OTHER HOSTILE ELEMENTS HERE.

3. POST IS DISMAYED AT LENGTHY DELAYS ALREADY
ENCOUNTERED IN GETTING THIS ESSENTIAL PROJECT OFF
THE GROUND. WE ARE NOT CONFIDENT OF THE SECURITY
OF THE CCC AREA IN ITS PRESENT CONDITION. THIS SPACE
WAS ACCESSIBLE TO HOSTILE ELEMENTS FOR SOME SEVEN
YEARS WHEN IT WAS OUTSIDE THE PHYSICAL CONTROL US
NATIONALS. IN ADDITION, WORKING CONDITIONS IN PRESENT
FACILITY AND RELIABILITY OF PRESENT COMMO EQUIPMENT
AND SYSTEM IS DEPLORABLE. RECENT AND REPEATED
OUTAGES OF PRESENT LEASED LINE HAVE DEMONSTRATED
ABSOLUTE NECESSITY FOR NEW CCC AND BACKUP RADIO
EQUIPMENT IF POST TO HAVE DEPENDABLE COMMUNICATIONS
CAPABILITY.

4. REQUEST DEPARTMENT RECONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS
CONTAINED PARAS IV, VI AND VII REF A CABLE IN LIGHT
FACTORS CITED ABOVE. POST CONSIDERS CB TEAM ESSENTIAL
ACCOMPLISH WORK IN SECURE MANNER. REQUEST FULL
ASSISTANCE IN EXPEDITING ARRIVAL MATERIALS AND CB
TEAM TO GET THIS JOB DONE.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC05106
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X2
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750445-0167
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751216/aaaaantg.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OC
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 DAMASCUS 4561, 76 STATE 288124
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 AUG 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <05 DEC 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CCC RENOVATION, PROPERTY NO. 01476
TAGS: ACOM, ABLD, ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006